



FIRST THINGS FIRST

Ready for School. Set for Life.

Arizona Early Childhood Development & Health Board

Yuma Regional Partnership Council Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Welcome/Introductions/Call to Order

The regular meeting of the First Things First-Yuma Regional Partnership Council was held on March 15, 2012, 4:30 p.m. at Yuma Regional Medical Center, 2400 S. Avenue A, Yuma, AZ 85364.

Chair Hawkins called the meeting to order at 4:36 p.m.

Members Present:

Chair Darren Hawkins
Vice Chair Irene Garza
Council Member Rebecca Ramirez
Council Member Kim Fanning
Council Member Judy Watkinson
Council Member Laurie Gail Senko
Council Member Mary Beth Turner
Council Member Gloria Cisneros

Members Absent:

Council Member Pilar Moreno
Council Member Ricardo Perez
Council Member Dr. Mario Ybarra

Consent Agenda

The items on the consent agenda included the minutes of the February 16, 2012, Yuma Regional Partnership Council regular meeting. A motion was made by Member Ramirez to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Member Watkinson and the motion carried by a unanimous vote by all members present.

Conflict of Interest

Vice Chair Garza declared a conflict of interest with agenda item #5 **One month roll-over for Reach Out and Read** and recused herself from participation during the discussion due to present employment by Reach Out and Read of Arizona.

Presentation by New Directions Institute

Dr. Jill Stamm, Co-Founder of New Directions Institute, shared a presentation on infant brain development. Dr. Stamm also shared some valuable information on neuroscience in relation to brain development.

One Month Roll-Over for FFN and RORAZ Strategies

Sr. Regional Director Gary P. Arnold reviewed the one month roll-over option for Family, Friend, and Neighbor and Reach Out and Read of Arizona with the Regional Council. Vice Chair Garza declared a conflict of interest with this portion of the agenda (**agenda item #5 One month roll-over for Reach Out and Read**) and recused herself from participation during the discussion due to present employment by Reach Out and Read of Arizona.

A motion was made by Member Watkinson to direct FTF staff to work with current contracts for the Reach out and Read of Arizona and the Family, Friend and Neighbor strategies to discuss the one month roll-over option for July 1, 2012 – July 31, 2012. Furthermore should the grantee agree to the roll-over option, the Regional Council shall approve the continuation of the existing services through July 31, 2012, using unexpended funds remaining in the SFY 2012 contract award. Seconded by Member Ramirez and the motion carried by a unanimous vote by all members present.

Update FTF Chief Regional Officer

Michelle Katona, First Things First Chief Regional Officer, provided a regional update to the Regional Council. Included in the update was the possibility of Voter Initiatives being placed back on the ballot in 2014, and that would include First Things First funds. Ms. Katona provided a review of resolution SCR 1031 and HCR 2005 and the legislative status on these resolutions. If ultimately approved, these measures would refer First Things First to the ballot for re-authorization in 2014. Michelle discussed the National Advisory Panel and its work in providing recommendations regarding external evaluation.

Communications Budget

Regional Director Hurtado discussed with the Regional Council the Communications Budget. A review of the budget and line items were discussed by the Regional Council. A motion was made by Member Turner to approve the communications budget for SFY 2012, seconded by Vice Chair Garza and the motion carried by a unanimous vote by all members present.

Regional Director's Report

Superintendent of Public Instruction, John Huppenthal, visited the Yuma region. The visit included a tour of the Valley of the Sun YMCA Center and Desert Mesa Pre-school (Yuma District One).

Regional Partnership Council Interviews are scheduled for April 16, 2012.

The Arizona Early Childhood Summit is currently scheduled for August 19-21, 2012.

Community Outreach Report

Nena Garcia continues to schedule presentations throughout the community to raise awareness of First Things First and services available in the region.

Call to the Public

None

Announcements

None

Adjourn

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

Marie Megui, Administrative Assistant III

APPROVED BY:

Rev. Darren Hawkins, Yuma Regional Partnership Council Chair

April 19, 2012

DRAFT